

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings of the instant application as follows:

Please replace the drawing sheet containing FIG. 2 with the enclosed Replacement Sheet.

FIG. 2 has been amended to overcome the below-stated objection.

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 6 are pending in this application, with claim 5 being independent. Claims 1-4 and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claim 5 has been amended. No new matter has been introduced. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(o) because FIG. 2 fails to include legends. FIG. 2 has been amended. A replacement figure incorporating this amendment is being submitted concurrently herewith.

Claim Rejections — 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 4,072,364 (“Gudat”) in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,825,338 (“Salmon”), and further in view of U.S. Patent Number 4,287,503 (“Sumida”). Claims 1-3 have been canceled, and claim 5 has been amended to include limitations of claim 7. Claims 4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat, in view of Salmon, and in further view of Sumida and U.S. Patent Publication Number 2003/0234550 (“Brooks”). This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that Gudat, Salmon, Sumida, and Brooks, either alone or in the proposed combination, fail to describe or suggest a vehicle display apparatus for displaying vehicle information, including a pulse generating device comprising output means for outputting a pulse signal generated by said control means, to a navigation unit mounted on a vehicle, as recited in claim 5.

The Office Action asserts the Gudat teaches a pulse generating device configured to generate a pulse signal based on the wheel speed information, and Salmon teaches an output means for outputting said pulse signal generated by control means to an information display device mounted on the vehicle. *See e.g.*, Office Action at page 3. The Office Action concedes that Gudat and Salmon fail to describe a plus generating device that includes output means for outputting the pulse signal to a navigation unit mounted on the vehicle. *See, e.g.*, Office Action at page 5. However, the Office Action alleges that Brooks provides such a teaching. *Id.*

In particular, the Office Action alleges Brooks discloses a display apparatus that is also a navigation apparatus, so that the alleged navigation unit can be combined with the display device of Salmon and the alleged speed pulse generator of Gudat to *specifically* show the limitations of claim 5. Applicants disagree because the Office Action uses hindsight gleaned from the present application to arrive at its conclusion (e.g., using the speed pulse generator with the navigation unit).

Indeed, the instant application points to an opposite conclusion (e.g., using the speed pulse generator with the navigation unit would not have been obvious). In particular, the instant application asserts that in a case where the user mounts on a vehicle a navigation unit (e.g., a retrofitted navigation unit) other than that of maker option, it is *impossible* to acquire such a precise pulse signal (speed pulses) dedicated to the vehicle kind as in indispensable for the

retrofitted navigation unit. Specification at page 2. As a result, the application describes that such retrofitted navigation system cannot be mounted on a device. Therefore, the inventors of the instant application were first to recognize the use of the pulse generating device with the navigation unit to enable accurate operation of such navigation unit in the vehicle.

As such, one of the features of the present invention is the conception and ***enablement*** of the specific ***combination*** of generating a pulse signal based on vehicle speed information or wheel speed information and outputting said pulse signal to a navigation unit mounted on the vehicle, as recited claim 5. Applicants respectfully submit that the proposed combination of the prior art, absent hindsight gleaned from the instant application, fail to describe or suggest this feature.

Sumida was relied upon for an alleged showing of a multiplexer. As such, the proposed addition of subject matter from Sumida is not believed to remedy the shortcomings of Gudat, Salmon, and Brooks to describe or suggest the above-recited features of claim 5. For at least the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 is respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claim 5 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims dependent thereon are also patentable.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are patentable based on their own merits by adding novel and non-obvious features to the combination.

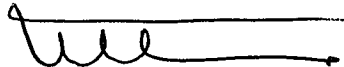
Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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